



Rabbi David Lau, Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of Israel, composed this special prayer to be recited during the Seder before *Vehi She'amdah*, the poem that describes how God has saved the Jewish people over the ages.

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יְהִי רְצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שֶׁבְּשָׂמַיִם אֲשֶׁר הוֹצִיאָ אֶת עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל מִתַּחַת סְבִלּוֹת מִצְרַיִם הוּא יְבָרֵךְ וַיִּנְצֵר אֶת
אֲחֵינוּ וְאֲחֻיּוֹתֵינוּ הַחֲטוּפִים הָאֲסוּרִים בְּכַבְלֵי בְרִזָּל, יַחֲזִק נַפְשָׁם וְאַמּוֹנָתָם, יִשְׁמְרֵם מִכָּל נֶגַע וּמַחֲלָה, יַחְמַל עַל
בְּנָיו וּבָנוֹתָיו הַמִּצְפִּים לִישׁוּעָתוֹ, יְבַטֵּל מֵעֲלֵיהֶם כָּל גְּזֵרוֹת אֲכֻזָּרִיוֹת. בְּחֻסְדּוֹ הַגָּדוֹל יַחֲיֵשׂ פְּדוּתָם וַיִּצְאוּ מִהַרְהָרָה
מֵאֶפְלָה לְאוֹרָה וּמִבּוֹר הַשְּׁבִי לְחֵרוֹת עוֹלָם וַיָּשׁוּבוּ לְשִׁלּוֹם אֶל מְשֻׁפְחוֹתֵיהֶם וְאֶל בְּתֵיהֶם.

אָנָּה, נִטַּע אַחֲוָה שְׁלוֹם וְרַעוּת בְּלֵב כָּלֵם, הִסַּר קִנְיָה וְשִׁנְאַת חֲנָם וּפְרַס עָלֵינוּ סִכַּת שְׁלוֹמָה, וְנִזְכָּה בְּקָרוֹב
לוֹמַר לְפָנֶיךָ שִׁירָה חֲדָשָׁה.

"It should be the will of our Father in Heaven who took God's nation Israel out of the yoke of Egypt. May God bless and save our brothers and sisters, the hostages who are held in iron chains. Strengthen their souls and their faith, protect them from all harm and sickness. May God have mercy on God's sons and daughters who look for God's salvation and annul all cruel decrees. With great kindness, may God send their redemption and speedily take them from darkness to light, from the abyss of captivity to eternal freedom, and return them safely to their families and homes.

Please, plant brotherhood, peace, and friendship in everyone's hearts. Remove jealousy and baseless hatred, and spread over us the shelter of Your peace, and may we soon merit to sing before You a new song. Amen.